GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1370
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
RICE EXPORT POLICY
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice export policy has been modified recently;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the percentage of broken rice allowed in the rice meant for export; and

(d) the steps taken to make Indian rice competitive for export?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade(DGFT) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry vide its notification No. 38 (RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 15th October, 2007, prohibited export of non basmati rice effective from 9th October, 2007.

Subsequently, vide its another notification No. 45(RE-2007)/2004-2009 dated 31st October, 2007, DGFT has stipulated that the prohibition imposed by this Notification shall not be applicable to the export of non-basmati rice if the Minimum Export Price(MEP) is more than US $ 425 per ton FOB.

There is no change in the policy for export of Basmati rice.

(c): There is no restriction on the percentage of broken rice in export of rice. However, in the export of rice, the percentage of broken rice is dependent on the requirement of the importers.

(d): The rice industry is upgrading their mills to meet the quality demands of the global market. They have also been implementing various quality systems. Government has adopted a multi pronged strategy to achieve higher productivity and production of rice. These initiatives include launching of a new scheme titled National Food Security Mission, balance use of fertilizers and development of marketing infrastructure etc.